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ECONOMICS  
AND  
STATISTICS  
ADMINISTRATION  
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U.S. Census Bureau

This release contains sensitive economic  
data not to be released before 10:00 a.m. Tuesday,  
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**Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products**  
**July 2004**

The U.S. Census Bureau, through the Department of Commerce, announced today that preliminary July steel imports were **\$1.9 billion (2.7 million metric tons)** compared with \$1.9 billion (2.9 million metric tons) in the preliminary June report.

The June to July change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected a decrease primarily in blooms, billets and slabs. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected decreases primarily with Brazil, Russia, and Canada.

The year to date final statistics through June 2004 showed steel imports of 14.1 million metric tons, compared with 10.8 million metric tons through June 2003. The largest commodity increases were in blooms, billets and slabs; wire rods; and reinforcing bars. The largest country increases were with Brazil, Russia, Turkey, and Mexico.

**Notes:**

**The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.**

*Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details visit the Foreign Trade Division web site at: [www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/](http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/). On the web site you can access product by country and country by product tables.*

*The next release is September 28, 2004*